

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims have been divided into Groups as follows:

- Group I: Claims 1–14, drawn to aqueous sols and processes of making aqueous sols.
- Group II: Claims 15–26, drawn to coating compositions and optical elements comprising said coatings.

Applicants elect, without traverse, Group I, Claims 1-14 (drawn to aqueous sols and processes of making aqueous sols), for examination.

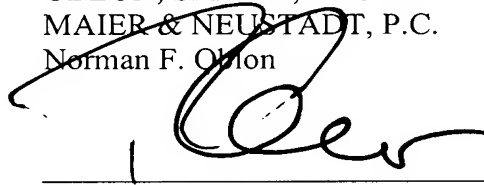
Additionally, Applicants are required to elect from the species as follows: (1) the sol particle nuclei comprising  $\text{SnO}_2$  particles or the sol particle nuclei comprising  $\text{SnO}_2/\text{ZrO}_2$  composite particles; (2) the sol particle coating comprising an alkylamine- $\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_5$  compound or the sol particle coating comprising a  $\text{SiO}_2\text{-Sb}_2\text{O}_5$  compound; (3) the process with or without a hydrothermal treatment in step (a); and (4) the process with or without an anion exchanger step (d).

Applicants also provisionally elect, for examination purposes only, the following species: (1)  **$\text{SnO}_2/\text{ZrO}_2$**  composite particles (claims 3, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14), (2) the sol particle coating comprising an **alkylamine- $\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_5$**  compound (claims 1–3 and 7–10), (3) the process **with** a hydrothermal treatment in step (a) (claims 9, 10, 13, and 14), and (4) **with** an anion exchanger step (claims 8, 10, 12, and 14).

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for examination on the merits, and early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Treanor', is written over a horizontal line.

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